

## **Minutes of the State Board of Health**

March 12, 2003

The Washington State Board of Health (SBOH) met at the Lacey Community Center at 6729 Pacific Avenue SE in Lacey, Washington. Board Chair Linda Lake called the public meeting to order at 9:42 am and addressed the attendees with the following statement:

“This is a public meeting of the SBOH held under provision of RCW 43.20. Notice of the meeting was provided in accordance with provisions of RCW 34.05, the Administrative Procedures Act. Those members having any conflict of interest on any item coming before the Board will report that conflict with respect to the particular subject under consideration. In case of challenge of any Board members by the public, the Board shall decide the status of the challenged members to participate before considering the substance of the matter.

Copies of all materials supplied to the Board for today’s meeting have been available since close of business last Friday from the Board’s Olympia office and on the Board’s Web site at [www.doh.wa.gov/sboh](http://www.doh.wa.gov/sboh). They are also available today, along with anything else we have received since, at the table in the back of the room. To conserve public funds, we have only made as many copies as we feel will be needed, so we may run out of some particularly popular items. If you do not find a document you need, please ask Executive Assistant Desiree Robinson, or another Board staff person for one.

Our meeting today is open to the public, so please feel free to listen in on informal discussions involving Board members or staff, including any that may occur during breaks or lunch.”

### **SBOH members present:**

Linda Lake, MBA, Chair  
Thomas H. Locke, MD, MPH, Vice Chair  
Charles Chu, DPM  
Maxine Hayes, M.D.

The Honorable David Crump, PhD  
Carl Osaki, RS, MSPH  
Joe Finkbonner, R.Ph., M.H.A.  
Ed Gray, MD

### **SBOH members absent:**

Vickie Ybarra, RN, MPH  
The Honorable Carolyn Edmonds

### **State Board of Health Staff present:**

Don Sloma, Executive Director  
Craig McLaughlin, Senior Health Policy Manager  
Doreen Garcia, Senior Health Policy Advisor  
Marianne Seifert, Health Policy Advisor  
Desiree Robinson, Executive Assistant  
Jennifer Dodd, Assistant to the Board

### **Guests and Other Participants:**

Deborah Ahern, Thurston County Public Health & Social Services  
Stephen Albrecht, MD, Thurston County Project Access  
Susan Amberson, SeaMar Community Health Center  
Linda Barrett, Olympia Union Gospel Mission  
Paula Bigley, SeaMar CHC Dental Clinic

Holly Detzler, CHOICE Regional Health Network  
Don Krupp, Thurston County Public Health & Social Services  
Mary Looker, DOH Office of Community and Rural Health  
Jeff Mero, Association of Washington Public Hospital Districts  
Julie Miller, Thurston County Public Health & Social Services  
Mich'l Needham, Governor's Office  
Ann Neeld, Capital Medical Center  
Kathleen O'Connor MD MPH, Sound Health Solutions  
Kate Pearson, Wyeth Vaccines  
John Peppert, DOH, HIV Prevention and Education Services  
Katharine Sanders, Washington Health Foundation  
Joe Sharp, Capital Medical Center  
Loren Steffen, Olympia Union Gospel Mission  
Patti Swanson, Thurston County Public Health & Social Services  
Jennifer Tebaldi, DOH, Food Safety & Shellfish Program  
Gayle Thronson, Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction  
Yvette Townsend, Northwest Medical  
Gene Vosberg, Washington Restaurant Association  
Doug Hencken, Washington Food Industry  
George Wehnes, Olympia Union Gospel Mission  
Kristen West, CHOICE Regional Health Network  
Juno Whittaker, DOH Office of Community and Rural Health  
Diana Yu, MD, MPH, Thurston County Health Department

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*Motion: Approve March 12, 2003 agenda*

*Motion/Second: Crump, Finkbonner*

*Approved unanimously*

#### **ADOPTION OF January 8, 2003 MEETING MINUTES**

*Motion: Approve the December 10, 2002 minutes as written including draft errata statement*

*Motion/Second: Crump, Locke*

*Approved unanimously*

#### **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH UPDATE**

State Health Officer Maxine Hayes provided an update of the state's Smallpox Vaccine Pilot. To date, 179 people have received the smallpox vaccine and six clinics are participating in the pilot across Washington. Board members discussed how the pilot is being implemented, including the role of the CDC, the participation of the military, training of health officials, surveillance, and the flow and use of federal funds. Dr. Hayes announced that the 2002 Healthy Youth Survey showed tobacco use has decreased and use of seat belts has increased. She also stated that the Department of Health (DOH) has begun a campaign to increase physical activity in people over 45 years of age.

In addition Dr. Hayes reported on surveillance and control of West Nile Virus. WSBOH Chair Linda Lake and WSBOH Executive Director Don Sloma stated that at the Snohomish Health District Board of Health (SHD BOH) meeting they attended yesterday SHD BOH members had expressed concern about the need for coordinated statewide information dissemination. WSBOH Member Carl Osaki added that the state's

Environmental Health Directors are very concerned about the need for a coordinated effort for prevention and control. The Board discussed the urgency of having a communication plan.

Dr. Hayes reviewed a memo about adoption of Chapter 246-205 WAC rule revisions, delegated to DOH, regarding the decontamination of methamphetamine labs (see Tab 3). Finally, she provided a brief DOH legislative update.

### **SBOH STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Sloma mentioned the release of the *2002 Public Health Improvement Plan*. He reviewed the FYI section of the meeting agenda including the Washington Health Foundation's Community Health Forums currently underway. Dr. Hayes said the social determinants of health should be included in those discussions. When Mr. Sloma announced that the American Public Health Association Annual meeting is in November, Mr. Osaki stated that he has been asked to speak at the APHA meeting about environmental justice. Mr. Sloma called the Board's attention to a letter and report from the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction requesting support for the School Nurses Corps. Chair Lake asked for further discussion of Superintendent Bergeson's request later in the morning.

Mr. Sloma mentioned that the Governor's proposed changes to the Basic Health Plan resembled some of the Board's work on Access to Critical Health Services. Board Member Joe Finkbonner announced that the American Indian Health Commission has hired an Executive Director, Rebecca Johnston. Finally, Board members discussed the importance of Public Health Week in April, and the April 9 WSBOH meeting. Dr. Locke explained the need for the Board to assume a leadership role during Public Health Week, especially due to the need to support proposals for public health funding.

Chair Lake asked Board staff to provide a context for Superintendent Bergeson's request for support of the School Nurses Corps. Doreen Garcia, SBOH staff, spoke on behalf of Board Member Vickie Ybarra, who was not present. Ms. Garcia stated that Ms. Ybarra, Chair of the Children's Health and Well-Being Committee, would like the Board to consider supporting the School Nurse Corps. Ms. Ybarra was unable to discuss this at the Board's last meeting when the Board reviewed and approved the memo "Sense of Board on Legislative Policy Issues." Ms. Garcia introduced Gayle Thronson, OSPI Health Services Coordinator, who explained that the School Nurse Corps provides services to school districts that wouldn't otherwise have school nurses. Ms. Thronson relayed Superintendent Bergeson's request for support for funding of the School Nurse Corps. Dr. Locke talked about how he believes this should be part of discussions about public health core sustainable funding. He said that local health officials have not discussed how to support school nurses and he will bring this issue to WSALPHO as part of a coordinated funding effort. Chair Lake reminded the Board that it has a policy regarding requests for letters of support. She referred this request to the Children's Health and Well-Being Committee and asked the Committee to make a recommendation to her. Mr. Finkbonner agreed that this request should be turned over to the Children's Committee. Dr. Crump asked if this could be handled prior to the April Board meeting. Ms. Garcia said that according to Board policy there could be a two-week turn around to determine Board action. The Children's Committee will make a recommendation to the Chair prior to the April 9 Board meeting.

Dr. Crump then asked about what role the schools are playing in emergency preparedness. Dr. Hayes agreed that this is an important issue and it must be considered at the local level as well.

### **LOCAL BOARDS OF HEALTH MEETINGS**

Chair Lake and Mr. Sloma discussed the meetings they have been having with some local boards of health around the state. Chair Lake stated that these meetings help build common agendas between SBOH and the local boards of health. She encouraged other SBOH members to participate in meetings with local boards.

### **SBOH LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

WSBOH Craig McLaughlin provided the SBOH Legislative Update. (See materials in Tab 6.)

### **FOOD SAFETY REVIEW COUNCIL**

Gene Vosberg, president of the Washington Restaurant Association, provided a brief background on the history and genesis of the Food Safety Review Council (FSRC) from the food industry perspective. Doug Hencken, president of the Washington Food Industry, described the collaborative process that led to the proposed role of the FSRC, and directed Board members to the materials behind Tab 09 that include the FSRC mission and bylaws. Jennifer Tebaldi, DOH Director of the Food Safety & Shellfish Program, described stakeholder support for the proposed FSRC and asked for the Board's support.

***Motion: The State Board of Health supports the efforts of the food service industry, local health jurisdictions, and the State Department of Health to develop a food safety review council whose primary mission shall be to promote food safety through the consistent application of the State Food Code, WAC 246-215.***

***Motion/Second: Osaki/Crump***

***Approved unanimously***

### **REPORT ON MARCH 11, 2003 HOUSE HEALTHCARE COMMITTEE HEARING ON PUBLIC HEALTH FUNDING**

WSBOH Member Ed Gray provided a report on the March 11 hearing before the House Health Care Committee on the Tri-Association proposal for funding public health. His presentation included overviews of the history of public health funding and the development of the current proposal. He mentioned the importance of holding the "I-695 backfill" in place for the present session. Board members asked process questions.

### **BLOOD BORNE PATHOGENS – WAC 246-100**

Craig McLaughlin, WSBOH Staff referred the Board members to the materials behind Tab 11. He reviewed the proposal for a collaborative process to review HIV/AIDS statutes, rules, and policy. Mr. McLaughlin added that the issue papers behind Tab 11 are draft documents and describe possible concerns from a public health perspective only. Mr. Osaki noted that the rules might impact lab workers, sewage workers, and tattooists, according to his past work at Public Health – Seattle & King County. Mr. McLaughlin said these groups would be consulted during the rule review process. Dr. Locke added that this is an update to the Board, and that there will be more to come before the Board in the future. There are some aspects that will be easier to fix than others, he said, and those should be addressed as soon as possible. Dr. Hayes stated that the issue papers are the beginning of the discussion. Dr. Crump added that issue paper #3 describes a potentially volatile perspective and asked how it would be addressed. Mr. McLaughlin replied that he isn't prepared to address specific issues at this point.

***Motion: The Board approves ongoing work on the review of HIV/AIDS policies, RCWs, and WACs as outlined in "Tackling HIV Policy Issues: A Proposed Process."***

***Motion/Second: Locke/Gray***

***Approved unanimously***

Meeting recessed for lunch at 12:36 and reconvened at 1:30pm.

### **OVERVIEW OF POSSIBLE 2003-05 BOARD ACTIVITIES**

Mr. Sloma introduced materials behind Tab 8 and discussed the Board's level of involvement in rule development and its criteria for priority work areas. Mr. Sloma invited Board members to review the Board's work and provide direction to staff in the future. At the July Board meeting in Colville there will be time to discuss future activities. Mr. Osaki reminded the Board that some issues have been brought to the Board through public testimony, and many of the rule development processes will require time from Board members and staff. He said Board planning processes should leave resources for responding to issues and should be realistic about the amount of resources required for rule making.

### **FEATHERSTONE REID AWARD**

Mr. McLaughlin introduced materials behind Tab 10 regarding the Featherstone Reid Award and discussed the process let led to the recommendation that the Board forward the nomination of the Snohomish County Human Services Division of Alcohol and Other Drugs to Secretary Mary Selecky for further consideration. Dr. Hayes mentioned the importance of Board members letting others know about the award, particularly when meeting with local boards of health.

***Motion: The Board accepts the recommendation of the nomination review committee and will transmit the application of the Snohomish County Human Services Division of Alcohol and Other Drugs to the secretary of health for further consideration.***

***Motion/Second: Crump/Hayes***

***Approved unanimously***

## **Joint Meeting of the Thurston County Board of Health and the Washington State Board of Health**

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### **INTRODUCTIONS**

WSBOH Chair Linda Lake and Thurston County Board of Health Chair Cathy Wolfe both called the joint meeting of the Washington State Board of Health and the Thurston County Board of Health to order at 2:10 pm. They asked Board members and staff to introduce themselves. In addition to the WSBOH members listed above, Thurston County Board Members present were Chair Wolfe and Bob McLeod.

Chair Lake described the efforts by the State Board of Health to meet with local boards of health. She said the State Board would like to hear about issues of concern to the Thurston County Board. She referred people to the SBOH 2002 *Annual Report* and provided an overview of the Board's work. Chair Wolfe then discussed the operations of the Thurston County Board of Health.

### **THURSTON COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH TASK FORCE**

Sherri McDonald, Thurston County Public Health & Social Services Administrator, said she is excited about the afternoon's presentation because it has provided an opportunity to review about eight years of work. (See slide show behind Tab 14 for more information about this and subsequent presentations).

### **PHIP ACCESS STANDARDS AND STATE BOARD'S ACCESS WORK**

Mr. Sloma discussed the Board's work on access to critical health services and directed attention to the material behind Tab 13, the Board's access reports and the PHIP Standards on Access.

### **UPDATES ON CURRENT EFFORTS TO INCREASE ACCESS TO PRIMARY MEDICAL CARE**

Susan Amberson, SeaMar Clinic Director spoke about the SeaMar system and the specific challenges experienced in Thurston County. (See Tab 14.)

Ann Neeld, Capital Medical Center Chief Operating Officer, discussed the new primary care clinic utilizing nurse practitioners in West Olympia. (See Tab 14.)

Kristen West, CHOICE Regional Health Network Executive Director discussed the 100% Access Project. (See Tab 14.)

Dr. Steve Albrecht, M.D., Olympia Family Medicine showed an *NBC News* item on Buncombe County Project Access in Asheville, North Carolina. He then oriented members of the two boards to Thurston County Project Access. See slide show for more information. Mr. Crump asked about hospital participation, especially given the savings in emergency uncompensated care. Dr. Locke asked about administrative costs. In North Carolina, said Mr. Albrecht, the local medical society expanded from one staff member to nine staff members. Dr. Locke asked Ms. West about the demographics of coverage in Thurston County and the distinction between insured and having access to care.

### **UPDATES ON CURRENT EFFORTS TO INCREASE ACCESS TO DENTAL CARE**

Julie Miller, Thurston County Public Health & Social Services Education Program Manager, talked about activities in Thurston County to increase access to dental care. (See Tab 14.)

Director George Wehness and Dental Coordinator Linda Barrett from the Olympia Union Gospel Mission spoke about the mission's efforts to provide adult dental care. (See Tab 14.)

Dr. Irene Hunter spoke as a representative of the dentists in the ABCD children's dental program. She said her experience with treating DSHS clients in her practice is that their teeth are damaged before they come in and improvements she achieves are often temporary. She spoke about several advantages of the ABCD Program, such as correcting family misinformation about the need for early dental care.

Ms. McDonald summarized the presentations and compared the programs to the Public Health Standards. Chair Lake said how impressed she was with these constructive efforts to address access issues in Thurston County. Chair Wolfe asked about solutions encountered by the Board in other areas of the state. Chair Lake said the Thurston County approach appeared to be unusually systematic. Ms. McDonald said the success could be attributed to the history of collaboration in the county. Thurston County Health Officer Diana Yu talked about the importance of teamwork.

Chair Lake mentioned the State Board's interest in hearing from the Thurston County Board about any other local issues and concerns. Dr. Yu spoke to the need for stable and secure public health funding. Mr. Sloma asked if there was a need for more work. Ms. McDonald said this work is not finished, "and you can put that in your minutes in bold, capital letters, in 40-point type." She added that many, many more people need to be served, and they have much, much more work to do. Mr. McLeod said it is essential that

the people in the Legislature hear what professionals in the community are doing, even with one hand tied behind their back because of lack of adequate funding.

**PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

No public testimony was offered.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairs Lake and Wolfe adjourned the meeting at 4:08 p.m.

WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

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Linda Lake, Chair